

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/083,003

Examiner

Philip B. Tran

Applicant(s)

TARR, STEPHEN F.

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/22/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 02/26/02
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date Attached.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Philip Tran
PHILIP B. TRAN

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Walder (Reg. No. 30,698), the undersigned, on September 14, 2005 and on September 16, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of locating devices on a network, comprising:
identifying a group name associated with a device to be discovered on the network, wherein the group name ~~may be~~ is associated with multiple devices having multiple addresses on the network;

creating a list of known subnets and known devices on the network upon
identifying a group name associated with a device to be discovered on the
network;

querying a name server on at least one of one of the known subnets for a list of IP addresses associated with the group name and obtaining a list of returned addresses associated with devices associated with the group name;

contacting each returned address associated with the group name for ~~the~~ a returned device's IP subnet information;

determining which of the returned devices is ~~the~~ a discovered device;

determining the discovered device and its subnet to the list of known subnets and known devices on the network.

Amended claim 6 as follows:

6. (Currently Amended) A system for network device location, comprising:

an address server for associating IP addresses of devices on the network with a group name, wherein the group name ~~which may be~~ is associated with multiple devices having multiple addresses on the network;

a discoverable device located on a first subnet of the network, wherein the discoverable device's IP address is associated with the group name; and

a discovering device, located on a second subnet of the network, for creating a list of known subnets and known devices on the network upon identifying a group name associated with a device to be discovered on the network; for querying the name server for a list of IP addresses associated with the group name and obtaining a list of returned addresses associated with devices associated with the group name; for contacting each returned address of each discoverable device associated with the group name for each discoverable device's IP subnet information; for determining which of the returned devices is the discoverable device; for determining the discoverable

device's subnet; and for adding the discoverable device and its subnet to the list of
known subnets and known devices on the network.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3. Claims 1-11 are allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statements of reason for allowance:

The examiner has found that the prior art of record does not appear to teach or suggest or render obvious the claimed limitations in combination with the specific added limitations as recited in independent claims and subsequent dependent claims. The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest a method and system for locating devices on a network by identifying a group name associated with a device to be discovered on the network, creating a list of known subnets and known devices on the network upon identifying a group name associated with a device to be discovered on the network, and using device's group name to obtain the device's location on the network as argued by applicant [see Remarks on Pages 6-7 of Paper dated 07/22/2005].

ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

5. The examiner as of general interest cites the following references:

A) Cochran et al, U.S. Pat. Application Pub. No. US 2002/01618767 A1.

B) Ma et al, U.S. Pat. Application Pub. No. US 2003/0069954 A1.

C) Peters, U.S. Pat. No. 6,601,093.

D) Kracht, U.S. Pat. No. 6,516,345.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Philip B. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-3991. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.
8. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Philip B. Tran
Art Unit 2155
September 16, 2005